

The JBL logo is displayed in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters within an orange square.

# Simply Cinema™



## ESC300

## simple

## set-up guide

**thank you** for choosing JBL. For over 50 years, JBL has been involved in every aspect of musical and film recording and reproduction, from live performances to monitoring the recordings you play in your home, car, or office.

We're confident that the **JBL system** you have chosen will provide every note of enjoyment that you expected – and that when you think about purchasing additional audio equipment for your home, car, or office, you will once again choose JBL.

Please take a moment to complete the enclosed profile card. It enables us to keep you posted on our latest advancements, and helps us to better understand our customers and build products that meet your needs and expectations.

JBL Consumer Products

# read first! Important Safety Precautions!

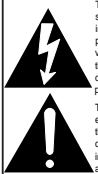
## CAUTION

### RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK DO NOT OPEN

**CAUTION:** To prevent electric shock, do not remove the grounding plug on the power cord, or use any plug or extension cord that does not have a grounding plug provided.

Make certain that the AC outlet is properly grounded.

Do not use an adapter plug with this product.



The lightning flash with arrowhead symbol, within an equilateral triangle, is intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated "dangerous voltage" within the product's enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons.

The exclamation point within an equilateral triangle is intended to alert the user to the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the appliance.

**1. Read Instructions.** All the safety and operating instructions should be read before the product is operated.

**2. Retain Instructions.** The safety and operating instructions should be retained for future reference.

**3. Heed Warnings.** All warnings on the product and in the operating instructions should be adhered to.

**4. Follow Instructions.** All operating and use instructions should be followed.

**5. Cleaning.** Unplug this product from the wall outlet before cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners. Use a damp cloth for cleaning.

**6. Attachments.** Do not use attachments not recommended by the product manufacturer, as they may cause hazards.

**7. Water and Moisture.** Do not use this product near water – for example, near a bathtub, wash bowl, kitchen sink or laundry tub; in a wet basement; or near a swimming pool; and the like.

**8. Accessories.** Do not place this product on an unstable cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table. The product may fall, causing serious injury to a child or adult, and serious damage to the product. Use only with a cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table recommended by the manufacturer, or sold with the product. Any mounting of the product should follow the manufacturer's instructions, and should use a mounting accessory recommended by the manufacturer.

**9. A Product and Cart Combination Should Be Moved with Care.** Quick stops, excessive force, and uneven surfaces may cause the product and cart combination to overturn.

**10. Ventilation.** Slots and openings in the cabinet are provided for ventilation and to ensure reliable operation of the product and to protect it from overheating, and these openings must not be blocked or covered. The openings should never be blocked by placing the product on a bed, sofa, rug, or other similar surface. This product should not be placed in a built-in installation such as a bookcase or rack unless proper ventilation is provided or the manufacturer's instructions have been adhered to.

**11. Power Sources.** This product should be operated only from the type of power source indicated on the marking label. If you are not sure of the type of power supply to your home, consult your product dealer or local power company. For products intended to operate from battery power, or other sources, refer to the operating instructions.

**12. Grounding or Polarization.** This product may be equipped with a polarized alternating-current line plug (a plug having one blade wider than the other). This plug will fit into the power outlet only one way. This is a safety feature. If you are unable to insert the plug fully into the outlet, try reversing the plug. If the plug should still fail to fit, contact your electrician to replace your obsolete outlet. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized plug.

**13. Power-Cord Protection.** Power-supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them, paying particular attention to cords at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the product.

**14. Nonuse Periods.** The power cord of the product should be unplugged from the outlet when left unused for long periods of time.

**15. Outdoor Antenna Grounding.** If an outside antenna or cable system is connected to the product, be sure the antenna or cable system is grounded so as to provide some protection against voltage surges and built-up static charges. Article 810 of the National Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA 70, provides information with regard to proper grounding of the mast and supporting structure, grounding of the lead-in wire to an antenna discharge unit, size of grounding conductors, location of antenna-discharge unit, connection to grounding electrodes, and requirements for the grounding electrode. See Figure 1.

**16. Lightning.** For added protection for this product during a lightning storm, or when it is left unattended and unused for long periods of time, unplug it from the wall outlet and disconnect the antenna or cable system. This will prevent damage to the product due to lightning and power-line surges.

**17. Power Lines.** An outside antenna system should not be located in the vicinity of overhead power lines or other electric light or power circuits, or where it can fall into such power lines or circuits. When installing an outside antenna system, extreme care should be taken to keep from touching such power lines or circuits, as contact with them might be fatal.

**18. Overloading.** Do not overload wall outlets, extension cords, or integral convenience receptacles, as this can result in a risk of fire or electric shock.

**19. Object and Liquid Entry.** Never push objects of any kind into this product through openings, as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short-out parts that could result in a fire or electric shock. Never spill liquid of any kind on the product.

**20. Servicing.** Do not attempt to service this product yourself, as opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltage or other hazards. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.

**21. Damage Requiring Service.** Unplug this product from the wall outlet and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:

- The power-supply cord or the plug has been damaged; or
- Objects have fallen onto, or liquid has been spilled onto, the product; or
- The product has been exposed to rain or water; or
- The product does not operate normally when following the operating instructions. Adjust only those controls that are covered by the operating instructions, as an improper adjustment of other controls may result in damage and will often require extensive work by a qualified technician to restore the product to its normal operation; or
- The product has been dropped or damaged in any way; or
- The product exhibits a distinct change in performance – this indicates a need for service.

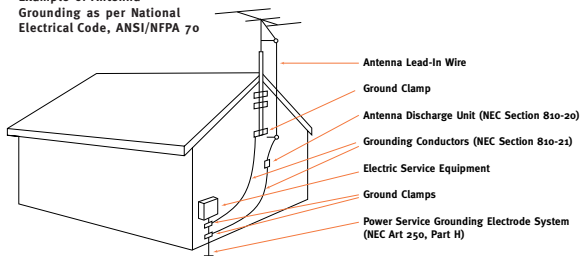
**22. Replacement Parts.** When replacement parts are required, be sure the service technician has used replacement parts specified by the manufacturer or that have the same characteristics as the original part. Unauthorized substitutions may result in fire, electric shock or other hazards.

**23. Safety Check.** Upon completion of any service or repairs to this product, ask the service technician to perform safety checks to determine that the product is in proper operating condition.

**24. Wall or Ceiling Mounting.** The product should be mounted to a wall or ceiling only as recommended by the manufacturer.

**25. Heat.** The product should be situated away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other products (including amplifiers) that produce heat.

**Figure 1.**  
Example of Antenna  
Grounding as per National  
Electrical Code, ANSI/NFPA 70



# Troubleshooting

**If there is no sound from any of the speakers, check the following:**

- Make sure the subwoofer is plugged into an active AC wall outlet.
- Make sure the Master Power Switch, located on the rear of the subwoofer, is in the "On/Standby" position.
- Make sure there is a source – for example, a VCR or television hooked up to the video or auxiliary input jacks.
- Make sure that the program material is playing.
- Recheck the hookup connections in the "Speaker Connections" section.

**If there is no sound from the surround speakers or it is very low, check the following:**

- Check all connections between processor/amplifier and each of the speakers.
- Raise the surround volume from the remote control (see "Operation" section).
- Make sure the TV show or movie you are watching is recorded in Dolby Surround. If it is not, try the Phantom or Simulated surround mode.

**If there is no sound from the center speaker, check the following:**

- Make sure that the processor is in the Pro Logic, 3 Stereo, or Simulated mode. If it is in Phantom or Stereo mode, the center speaker will not play.
- Check the connections between the subwoofer and the center speaker.

**If you have low bass output, check the following:**

- Experiment with placement of the subwoofer. Remember, place the subwoofer in a corner to get maximum bass output from the system.
- Increase the level of bass, using the remote control.

## Specifications

### ESC300 System

#### **Amplifier**

200 watts total  
system output;  
front channels:

35 watts x 3 @ .1% THD;

surround channels:

15 watts x 2 @ .1% THD;

subwoofer:

65 watts x 1 @ 1% THD

#### **Signal-to-Noise Ratio**

90dB

#### **Input Impedance**

20k ohms

#### **Input Sensitivity**

400mV

#### **Auto Turn-on Sensitivity**

2mV/channel

#### **System Frequency**

#### **Response (-6dB)**

35Hz – 20kHz

### Subwoofer

#### **Dimensions (HxWxD)**

15-1/8 x 13 x 14-1/2 inches

384 x 330 x 368mm

#### **Weight**

34.5 lbs/15.7 kg

### Satellites (each)

#### **Dimensions (HxWxD)**

4-3/8 x 3-3/16 x 3-3/4 inches

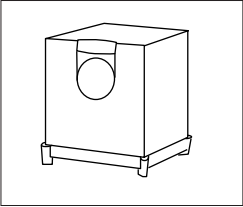
111 x 81 x 95mm

#### **Weight**

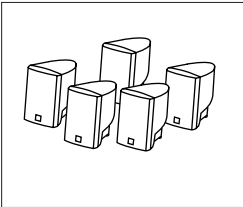
.8 lbs/.4 kg

Occasional refinements may be made to existing products without notice, but will always meet or exceed original specifications unless otherwise stated.

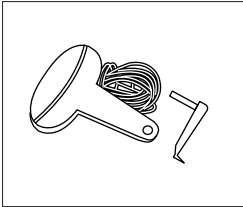
# included



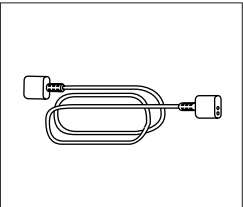
"Smart" Powered subwoofer/controller.



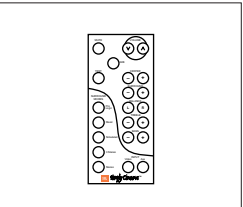
Five satellites for left, right, center and surrounds.



Foot for horizontal placement of center speaker. Versatile remote sensor, and double-sided tape provided.



JBL "error free" speaker cables. Extension cable XC300 available in 10-ft. length in either white or black.



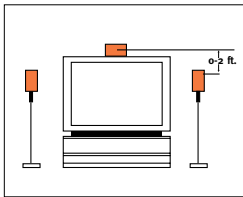
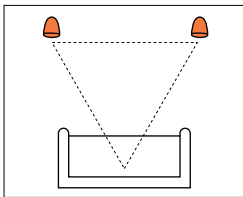
Remote control.

# features

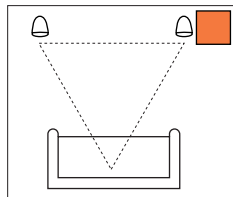
- Dolby\* Pro Logic\* Processor with additional Phantom, Simulated, 3-Stereo, and Stereo Surround modes.
- Six channels of amplification for all speakers and subwoofer.
- Five identical, 2-way micro-satellites with titanium tweeters.
- Full-function remote control.
- Remote sensor with connection wire for easy placement.

# one. Speaker Placement

## Satellites

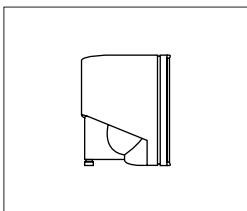


## Subwoofer

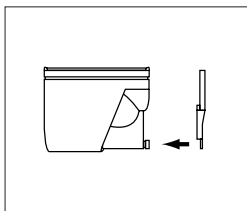


### Mounting Remote Sensor to Center Speaker.

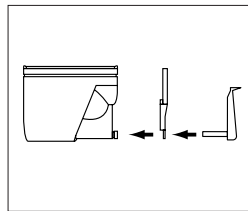
If desired, the remote sensor may be placed anywhere using the supplied double-sided tape.



Center speaker.

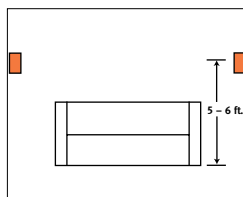
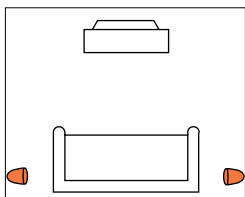


Place remote sensor at bottom of center speaker.



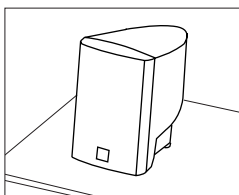
Insert support leg through remote sensor and into speaker.

## Surround Speakers

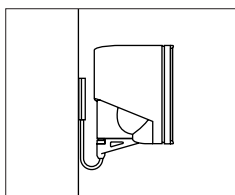


### Mounting Options

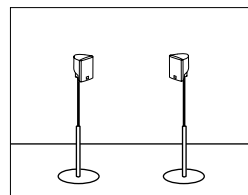
#### Satellites and Surrounds



On shelves.



On the wall. Optional bracket.  
WB300 or WB300WHT (white).



On optional stands. FS300 or  
FS300WHT (white).

## Surround Modes

### Dolby Pro Logic

Use this mode for films recorded using Dolby Pro Logic Surround. The surround channels have a 20-ms delay.

### Phantom

This mode creates surround sound from stereo recordings. The center channel is not used and the surround channels have a 20-ms delay.

### Simulated

This mode provides surround sound with no delay for the surround speakers. This is not a Dolby mode.

### 3-Stereo Mode

Use this mode to play back Pro Logic-encoded films when you do not want the surround channels to play.

### Stereo

This mode plays a recording in traditional two-channel stereo.

## Test Tone

The test tone is used to calibrate the volume settings of the speakers. A static noise will be heard cycling, in order, from the front left, center, right, and both surround speakers.

Using the remote control, adjust the Center and Surround levels until the volume of all the speakers is the same during the test.

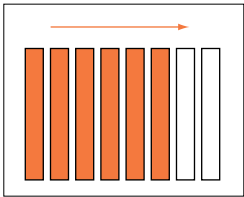
**Note:** The test tone is used to calibrate the performance of the system. When listening to an actual recording, the volume level of the surround channels is generally much lower than that of the front channels. In fact, when listening to a movie, virtually all of the dialogue and a substantial amount of the effects are reproduced through the center channel.

# Status Bar Indicators

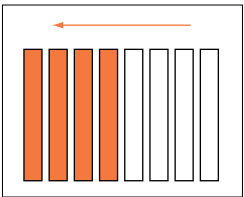
LED Bar Indicators illuminate in response to adjustments in volume, balance, center level, surround level, bass, and treble controls.

## Volume

**Increase**

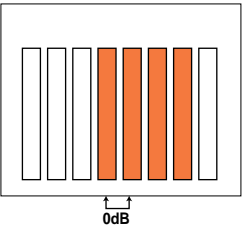


**Decrease**

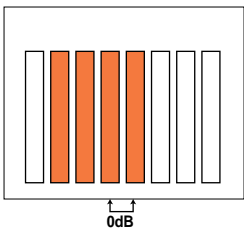


## Bass, Treble, Center Level, and Surround Level

**Increase**

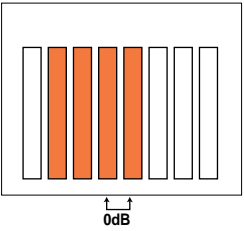


**Decrease**

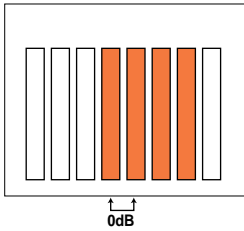


## Balance

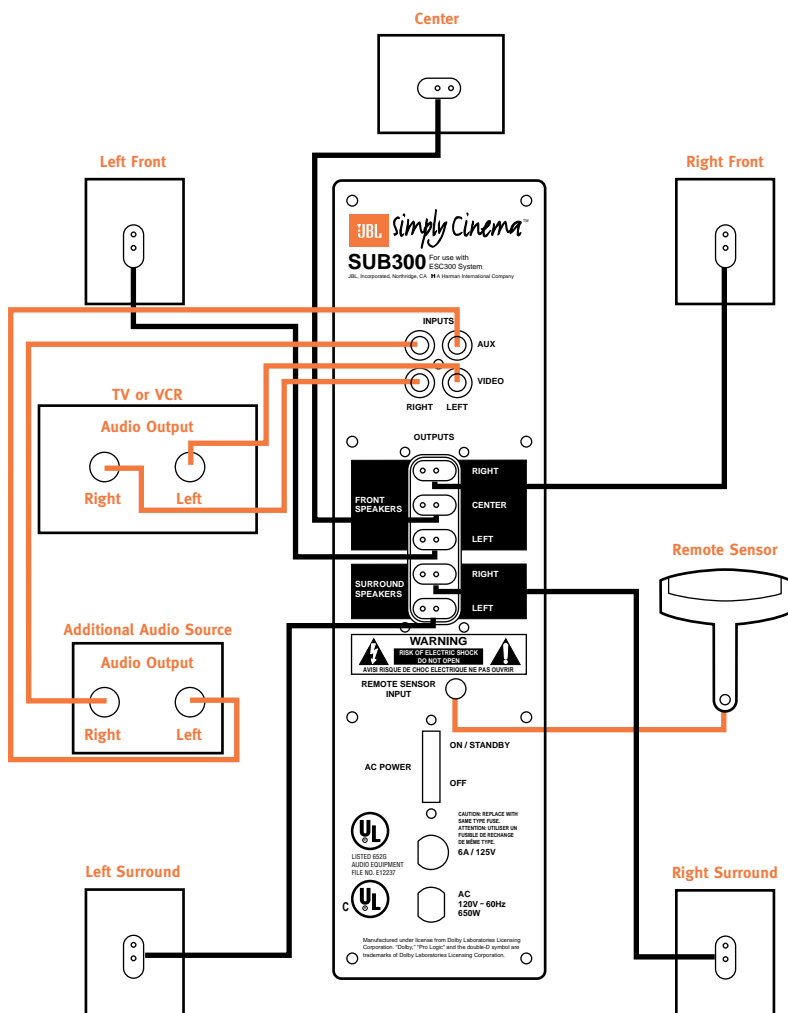
**Left**



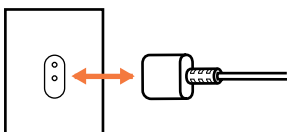
**Right**



## two. Speaker Connections (rear panel of subwoofer)



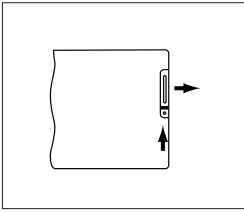
### Speaker and Amplifier Connection



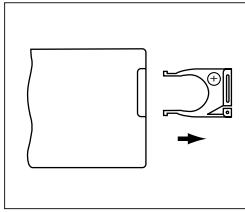


# three. Operation

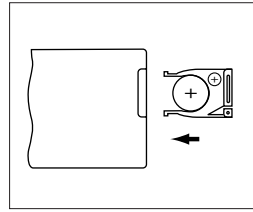
## Remote Control Battery Installation.



Push small tab towards battery slot and pull battery drawer out.

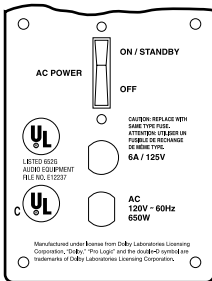


Remove old battery.



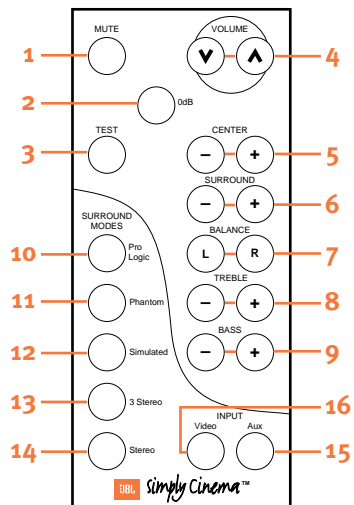
Insert new battery with "+" side up, and slide battery drawer back into remote.

## Rear Panel Control



### Master On/Off Switch

To operate unit, place this switch in the On/Standby position. The system will go into standby when no signal has been received for approximately five minutes.



## Remote Control

### 1. Mute

From either the front panel or the remote control press (Mute) to lower the volume completely. The mute symbol indicator (27) will begin to flash. When you press either of the mute buttons again, the volume will return to its previous setting.

**Note:** The mute function can also be turned off by pressing either of the volume buttons on the front panel or the remote control.

### 2. 0dB

Press this button to reset the Center, Surround, Balance, Treble, and Bass controls to their default positions.

### 3. Test

Press this button to activate the Test Tone mode (see "Test Tone" section).

### 4. Volume

Press (^) on the remote control or the front panel to raise the system's volume. Press (v) on the remote control or the front panel to lower the system's volume.

### 5. Center

Press (+) on the remote control to increase the relative volume of the center channel. Press (-) on the remote control to decrease the relative volume of the center channel.

## 6. Surround

Press (+) on the remote control to increase the relative volume of the surround channels. Press (-) on the remote control to decrease the relative volume of the surround channels.

## 7. Balance

Press (R) on the remote control to decrease the volume of the left channel. Press (L) on the remote control to decrease the volume of the right channel.

## 8. Treble

Press (+) to increase the level of high-frequency information. Press (-) to decrease the level of high-frequency information.

## 9. Bass

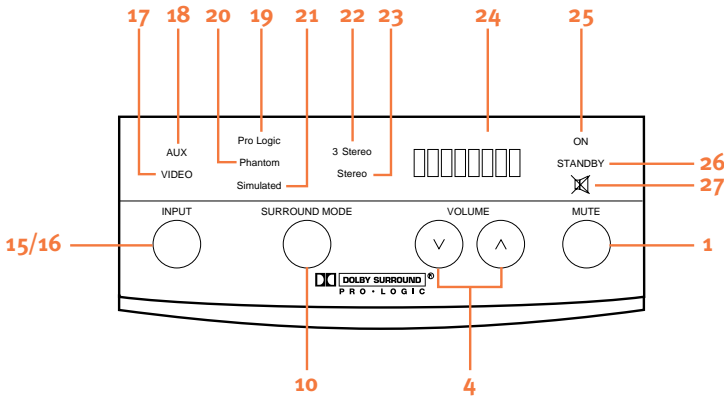
Press (+) to increase the level of low-frequency information. Press (-) to decrease the level of low-frequency information.

## 10–14. Surround Modes

From the remote, press one of these buttons to directly choose the desired surround mode (see “Surround Modes” section). From the front panel, press (Surround Mode) to cycle between the surround modes.

## 15–16. Input Selector

From the remote, press either (Aux) or (Video) to select the desired input. From the front panel, press (Input) to select the desired input.



## Front Panel Indicators

### 17–18. Input

Either Video or Aux will illuminate, depending on which input is chosen.

### 19–23. Surround

One of these will illuminate depending on which surround mode is chosen.

### 24. Status Bar Indicators

These LEDs show the relative setting of volume, balance, center level, surround level, bass and treble controls (see “Status Bar Indicators” section).

### 25. On

This will illuminate when the Master On/Off is switched to On/Standby and a signal is present.

### 26. Standby

This will illuminate when the Master On/Off is switched to On/Standby and a signal is not present.

### 27. Mute Symbol

This will flash whenever the Mute feature is engaged.



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Printed in USA 11/96 ♻️ Part No. ESC3000M

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